

From: Monica Burke-Reid [monicab@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Friday, August 26, 2005 3:45 PM
To: Billington, Tracie
Cc: Karen Christensen; John A. Ricker; Laura Brown
Subject: additional comments regarding Step 2
Hello Tracie,

I spoke with Ralph last week regarding the draft Step 2 PSP and have a few suggestions.

Please consider assigning each of the proposals that are called back to one state economist. That economist would act as the technical consultant for the economic analysis cost/benefit section. The reasons for this are that 1) the section is very technical and for complex proposals it will be very difficult to complete, and 2) different economists have different approaches to valuation of costs and benefits. To avoid conflicting advice, it is desirable to have one state economist who will vouch for the contents of the section. The economic valuation of the true benefits of water and environmental restoration projects is a vast topic and applicants will need some expert guidance from the state staff.

I'd also like to suggest that the review process be changed to include a brief presentation by each applicant, or at least a forum for the reviewers to ask questions. The review process should include site visits if at all possible.

Thanks,
Monica

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